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MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING AGRICULTURE.

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Premium List—1844.

Cattle Show and Exhibition of Agricultural Implements.

The Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture announce to the public their intention to offer in premiums the sum granted by the Commonwealth, and the income of their funds for the current year. They confidently hope that the agricultural community will be incited to contend for the liberal rewards which they hold out; and that the Grand Cattle Show and Exhibition which they propose to hold in Worcester, by the exhibition of the finest animals, and of the most approved agricultural implements in the Commonwealth, may have an extensive influence, and present valuable lessons and examples to all farmers, who desire to make improvements either in the breed and management of stock, or in the mode or instruments of culture.

They propose to have a *Trial of Plows* and other implements, on *Wednesday, Oct. 9th*, and to hold a *Cattle Show* and an *Exhibition of Farming Implements and Mechanics' Tools*, on *Thursday, Oct. 10th*, 1844, at *Worcester*—and for these purposes they offer the following liberal Premiums:

For Stock

Which has obtained a premium from any incorporated Agricultural Society in the Commonwealth, the last year, or shall obtain a premium from any such Society the present year:

Cattle.

Bulls 3 years old and over, for the best,	$30
Second best,	20
Bulls 2 years old and under 3 years, for the best,	20
Second best,	12
Bulls 1 year old and under 2 years, for the best,	12
Second best,	8
Bull Calves, for the best,	8
Second best,	5
Cows, 3 years old and over, for the best,	30
Second best,	20
Third best,	15
Fourth best,	10

A statement will be required of the manner of keeping, whether alone, or with others; of the quantity and quality of the milk, tested by *the milk of not less than seven successive days having been manufactured into butter*; of the time when the trial was made and its results; of the time of the cow's calving, and the quality of the calf; of the breed; and of such other facts within the knowledge of the owner, as will give the committee full information of the qualities of the cow for the dairy.

Heifers 2 years old, and under 3 years, for the best,	$20
Second best,	12
Third best,	6
Heifers 1 year old, and under 2 years, for the best,	12
Second best,	8
Third best,	5
Heifer calves, for the best,	8
Second best,	5
Working Oxen 4 years old and upwards, for the best pair,	30
Second best,	20
Third best,	15
Fourth best,	10
Steers 3 years old, and under 4 years, for the best pair,	20
Second best,	15
Third best,	8
Steers 2 years old, and under 3 years, for the best pair,	15
Second best,	10
Steers 1 year old, and under 2 years, for the best pair,	10
Second best,	8

In awarding the premiums to the Working Oxen and Steers, particular reference will be had to the close matching, excellence of training, and docility of the animals, as well as to their general appearance.

Cattle fitted for Slaughter,

Regard being had to the age, mode and expense of fatting, of which a particular statement must be made:

Best fat Ox,	$30
Second best,	25
Third best,	15
Fourth best,	10
Best fat Steer, Cow or Heifer, 4 years old and under,	20
Second best,	12
Third best,	8

Sheep.

For the best fat Wether,	5
Second best,	4
Long Wooled.	
For the best Buck,	10
Second best,	7
For the best pen of 3 Ewes,	10
Second best,	7
Middle Wooled.	
For the best Buck,	10
Second best,	7
For the best pen of 3 Ewes,	10
Second best,	7
Fine Wooled.	
For the best Buck,	10
Second best,	7
For the best pen of 3 Ewes,	10
Second best,	7

The term of "long wooled," is intended to include the Leicester, Lincolnshire, Cotswolds, and all the English and other varieties of sheep which furnish the quality of Wool for combing; the "middle wooled," the Southdown, the Norfolk, Dorset, Cheviot, Native, &c. The "fine wooled," the Spanish and Saxon varieties of the Merino and some of their crosses.

Swine.

For the best Boar,	$20
Second best,	12
Third best,	8
For the best breeding Sow, 2 years old, and which shall have had two litters of pigs—for the best,	20
Second best,	12
Third best,	8
For the breeding Sow, 1 year old and upwards, which shall have had one litter of pigs—for the best,	12
Second best,	8
Third best,	5
For weaned Pigs, not less than 3 in number, of the same litter—for the best,	10
Second best,	7
Third best,	4

In awarding premiums on Swine, reference will not be had exclusively to the size and present condition, but regard will be had to that form, and proportion of bone and offal to the more valuable parts, which promises the greatest value at the least expense of feed.

General Rules.

In awarding premiums on all stock, regard will be had to the manner and expense of raising and keeping; and the owner, or person having charge of the animal, will be required to give a satisfactory account thereof, in writing, to the appropriate committee, on the day of the Exhibition, as it is the intention of the Trustees to encourage that stock, which not only may *appear* best, but which, in reference to the cost, *is* most profitable to the farmer.

No premium will be awarded for any stock, unless the animal, in the opinion of the committee, is of superior quality and value.

The owners of Bulls are requested to have a ring in the nose of their animals, with a chain or rope to secure them. The owners of Working Oxen or cattle, exhibited in the yoke, are requested to bring a chain to each yoke, to secure the cattle to posts.

All animals offered for premium, must be in the pens or secured to the posts before 9 o'clock, A. M. on the day of Exhibition, and must not be removed therefrom before 3 o'clock, P. M. of that day, except with the consent of the appropriate committee, or of one of the marshals, or other officers of the Society.

Compensation for Travel.

The Trustees, with a view to the liberal encouragement of the citizens of this Commonwealth who live remote from the place of the Exhibition, propose to pay the expense which may actually be incurred in getting the stock to the Show, not exceeding eight cents per mile for travel, to the owner of such animals before mentioned, as obtain

premiums, and which are brought or driven more than fifteen miles, computing from the place from which the animals come, to the place of the Show: also to unsuccessful competitors and owners of cattle offered for exhibition, the like sum, when it shall appear from the report of the committee, that in their opinion, the owners merit such an indemnity for an expense which has given credit to the Show; but no owner of any number of premium animals will be entitled to more than one allowance for travel, at eight cents per mile.

Entry of Animals.

Persons intending to offer any species of stock, for either of the before mentioned premiums, must give notice either by letter, postage paid, or by personal application, to JOHN W. LINCOLN, at Worcester, on or before the 9th day of October next, at 9 o'clock, A. M., stating the kind of stock, age, breed, where raised, by whom owned, and accompanied by a certificate that a premium has been awarded for the animal by an incorporated Agricultural Society within this Commonwealth, and requesting him to enter his application, so that tickets for the pens may be ready by 8 o'clock of the next morning, and the several committees be furnished with a statement of the animals, to which their attention will be required. The difficulty of making proper arrangements for the accommodation of the different species of stock, without such previous notice, renders a strict enforcement of this rule indispensable, and no person will be considered as a competitor, who shall not have made such application for entry on, or before the time specified.

Owners of animals of superior excellence, which have not been offered for premium at any show of any incorporated Agricultural Society, either the present or past year, may enter such animals for exhibition at the time before mentioned, furnishing the information necessary to enable the Committee to judge of the character of the Stock.

FARM IMPLEMENTS.

For the best Plow,	$50
Second best,	30
For the best Subsoil Plow,	12
Second best,	8
For the best Cart or Wagon on improved principles,	20
For the best Drill Barrow,	10
Second best,	7
For the best Harrow,	10
Second best,	7
For the best Fanning Mill,	10
Second best,	7
For the best Threshing Machine,	10
Second best,	7
For the best Straw Cutter,	10
Second best,	7
For the best Vegetable Cutter,	6
Second best,	4
For the best improved Ox Yoke,	5
Second best,	3
For the best Horse Rake,	8
Second best,	5
For the best half dozen Hand Rakes,	4
For the best Grain Cradles,	4
For the best half dozen Dung Forks,	5
For the best half dozen Hay Forks,	5
For the best half dozen Grass Scythes,	5
For the best half dozen Cradle do.	5
For the best half dozen Scythe Snaiths,	5
For the best half dozen Shovels,	4
For the best half dozen Hoes,	3

General Rules.

Articles not presenting any new and valuable improvement, will not be entitled to premium. Should there be presented any Agricultural Implement, other than those above mentioned, which in the opinion of the committee is entitled to particular commendation, they will be authorized to award a suitable gratuity therefor. Implements and machines must be tested as far as may be practicable, in the presence of, and under the direction of the Committee, should they deem it necessary. The plows will be subjected to a full and thorough trial, and in any manner the Committee may think expedient. The plows offered in competition for the premiums, will be delivered to them for trial, which will be had on Wednesday, the 9th day of October next, at such place in the town of Worcester, as shall be hereafter designated for that purpose, and will be continued, without any agency therein by the owners, until the Committee have satisfied themselves of the relative merits of the several plows offered.

The Trustees are desirous of rendering the Exhibition of Agricultural Tools not only interesting, but useful, both to those who may have occasion to use them, and those who manufacture the instruments. They hope that the agriculturist will find in the Exhibition Hall, every implement which he may have occasion to purchase, of the most improved construction, manufactured in the best manner, and having thereon the name of the maker, that the public may know where such tools can be obtained.

They also wish to include in the Exhibition such Mechanics' Tools as a farmer has frequent occasion to use, such as Planes, Chisels, Gimlets, Saws, Adzes, Axes, Bitt Stocks and Bitts, Augers, Wrenches, Hammers, Squares, &c., and for those which in the opinion of the Committee are deserving a premium, they are authorized to award a gratuity. For the purpose of providing for the payment of the gratuities before mentioned, the sum of $50 has been reserved. But no tool or implement will be considered as entitled to a premium unless manufactured within the United States.

All tools and implements must be delivered at the Town Hall, in Worcester, to the person authorized to receive them, before 9 o'clock, A. M., on the 9th day of October next, that they may be seasonably entered on the books, and arranged for the examination of the appropriate Committee. Those who may find it more convenient to send them at an earlier time, may forward them to the care of JOHN W. LINCOLN, at Worcester, who will take charge of them, see that they are properly entered on the books, and exhibited in the hall.

It is requested that every farmer who may have in possession any implement not in common use, which he uses on his farm, in his dairy, or in his workshop, and which he considers better than is used by his neighbor, will exhibit it on this occasion, for the information of the agricultural community.

The Trustees of the Massachusetts Society for the Promotion of Agriculture, will seasonably make appointment of the several committees, who will be selected from those persons in different parts of the State who are considered as particularly skilled in the subjects to which their attention will be requested.

It is understood that whenever merely from want of competition, any of the claimants may be considered entitled to the premium, under a literal construction, yet, if in the opinion of the judges, the object so offered is not deserving of any reward, the judges shall have a right to reject such claims. Persons to whom premiums shall be awarded, may, at their option, have an article of plate, with suitable inscriptions, in lieu of the money.

In cases where pecuniary premiums are offered, the Trustees may, having regard to the circumstances of the competitors, award either the Society's gold or silver medals, in lieu of the pecuniary premium annexed to the several articles.

If any competitor for any of the Society's premiums shall be discovered to have used any disingenuous measures, by which the objects of the Society have been defeated, such person shall not only forfeit the premiums which may have been awarded to him, but be rendered incapable of being ever after a competitor for any of the Society's premiums.

The Treasurer will pay all premiums awarded, on demand.

All premiums not demanded within six months after they shall have been awarded, shall be deemed to have been generously given to aid the funds of the Society.

By order of the Trustees:

JOSIAH QUINCY, JR.,
JOHN C. WARREN,
JOHN A. LOWELL,
H. CODMAN,
} *Committee.*

April, 1844.

For the New England Farmer.

CLOSE PLANTING OF CORN.

Mr Breck—I have sometimes thought that if farmers would communicate the results of *unsuccessful* experiments, through the medium of the agricultural journals, they would confer as great a benefit upon the public as they do by relating their successful experiments. In accordance with the above opinion, I will attempt to give the result of *close* planting of Indian corn the past season, though at the risk of being somewhat tedious.

In the spring of 1841, in consequence of the removal of an old fence, I had a strip of pasture land fifteen rods in length, and two rods in width, added to a field. It was plowed up and planted with potatoes, and yielded a fair crop. In the spring of 1842, there were carted upon it four cartloads of good stable manure, and deeply plowed; after laying a few days, it was harrowed, and four more loads of good compost manure, made of swamp muck, stable dung, lime, and ashes, were spread, and again plowed and harrowed. About the 10th of May, drills were made by a kind of horse-rake, with the teeth just three feet apart; three kernels of the "Brown corn" were dropped in the drills, at the distance of two feet; in a few days the corn came up, and grew rapidly; during the season, the ground was merely scraped over with the hoe three or four times, but no hills made. In October, when fully ripened, the corn was harvested, and produced over thirty bushels of large sound ears, and two bushels of small ears; and I think it would, when dry enough for the market, have shelled out 15 bushels, or at the rate of 75 bushels to the acre.

I intended to have sown it last spring, with oats

and grass seed; but upon reading in the N. E. Farmer of March 22d, 1843, an account of a premium crop of corn raised in New York, by a Mr Phelps, I was led to plant the patch again with corn, upon his plan. In his statement of the cultivation, &c., he says: "On the 23d of May, 1842, I plowed up one acre of geensward, for the purpose of planting it with corn. After plowing it once, I harrowed it well, lengthwise of the furrows. I then marked out the ground so that the rows and hills should stand precisely two feet apart either way. On the 25th of the same month, I planted it, and was careful to put precisely three kernels in each hill: when it was large enough, I hoed it, and continued to hoe it three different times. No other tool was used in the process of cultivation but the hoe, being very careful to keep the weeds and grass down as much as possible, and in hoeing, to leave the ground as near level as possible each time. I permitted the corn to stand until it was fit for harvesting, without cutting up or topping. Between the 10th and 15th of November, I began to husk and weigh the said corn. I found the aggregate weight from the said acre, in the ear, 13,286 lbs., of a good quality. About the first day of January, 1843, I thrashed out all the sound corn that grew on the said acre, and measured it, and found that it fully held out 60 lbs. to the bushel, and it produced me *one hundred and twentytwo bushels* of good merchantable corn."

After reading the above statement, I thought I would try my small patch of ground again with corn, as before stated. I gave it the same preparation of manure, plowing, and harrowing, that it had the year previous: it was planted about the 12th of May, precisely as to distance and seed, as Mr Phelps says he planted his. It came up well, and the first of July I thought I should get a real *crack* crop—something to brag about—notwithstanding several old grey-headed farmers told me that it was planted so thick, it would not amount to much except for fodder. In August, I began to think these old farmers new a thing or two; for the bottom of the plants, for 12 or 18 inches, assumed a yellow color, and but few of the suckers tasseled out, but shriveled up and dried; the ears that started, (two or three to every stalk,) stood perfectly erect, and did not "hang off" as they did the year before. However, when ripe, it was harvested, and accurately measured, and instead of thirty bushels of ears, as I had the year previous, there was but eighteen bushels. As every thing was as favorable to the crop, except its close planting, I can conceive of no possible reason why it should not have been as good as the previous one, except the difference was caused by the close planting, which caused the corn to "draw up" spindling and weak.

From some experience of my own, and observation in the cultivation of corn by others, I think Mr Phelps' method of culture is worthy of imitation, except the close planting. Several years ago, I planted a field of corn, and dropped two or three kernels extra in each hill, for fear the worms might take a part of them. At weeding or first hoeing, I pulled up a part of the surplus, and was surprised at the length of the root—not roots—as there was but one, the main root, which I frequently found had grown to the length of 18 inches; and as the rows were three feet distant, I found in some instances that the roots from opposite hills had met, and believing that all the roots sent out by plants are needed for their most perfect growth, and frequently having heard farmers complain of the injury done to their corn by the worms eating off the roots, I came to the conclusion that it made no difference with the corn whether its roots were cut off by a worm, a plow, or a cultivator. And knowing that neither a plow or cultivator could be run between the rows without cutting and lacerating the roots, I have never suffered any other tool but the hoe in my cornfields since—although I have one of Prouty & Mears' horse-plows, a prime cultivator purchased at your store several years ago, and a steady horse to draw them. Since I have adopted this plan, I have the satisfaction of knowing that my corn crops will compare, as to the quantity per acre, with any of the farmers in this vicinity.

Mr P.'s plan of leaving the stalks uncut, no doubt added many bushels to his crop. For two years past, I have left an acre or two till harvesting, with the full belief that I gained more in the corn than I lost in the fodder; though I have my doubts about the fodder being very much less valuable than when cut in the usual way.

I have had the stalks and butts mowed away after husking, and given them a good sprinkling of salt, and my cattle have eaten them as freely and as clean as when cut and bundled up.

I think there can be no doubt that the quantity of corn is lessened to the amount of 8 or 10 bushels to the acre, by cutting the stalks, as is generally practiced. Careful and accurate experiments of the Hon. Wm. Clark, jr., of Northampton, and others, has put the question beyond dispute.

But a knowledge of the use and function of the leaf, would, without an actual trial satisfy any one of the fact. The moisture or water in the soil, holding in solution a variety of salts, is taken up by the rootlets of plants, and by some mysterious power, propelled through the minute pores, or sap-vessels to the leaf, where, aided by solar light, (the rays of the sun,) a large amount of water escapes by evaporation, and the true sap is formed in the leaf, and by the vital powers, or action of the growing plant, the salts are retained to be assimilated, and assist in forming the complete and perfect plant, in all its varied parts and products. Now if the stalk of corn is cut off just above the ear, with all its long and broad green leaves, we violate the laws of nature and deprive the seeds of a portion of that food that would have been elaborated by the agency of the leaves.

The function of the leaves of plants, and the effect of the direct rays of the *sun*, in causing a greatly increased absorption of water by the roots, and consequently a corresponding ratio of evaporation of moisture by the leaf, is very clearly and simply illustrated, by an experiment recommended last year by Professor Henslow, to the farmers of one of the counties in England. He directs that three tumblers, numbered 1, 2, and 3, be nearly filled with water, then oiled paper tied over the tor of each tumbler, a hole made through the centre of each paper, and the stem of a leaf of a tree (with the leaf attached,) be passed through the hole in the paper, so as to touch the water. No. 1 is to have an inverted tumbler put over it, and placed in the direct rays of the sun. No. 2 is to have an inverted tumbler put on, and placed in the light, but so as not to have the sun shine upon it; and the tumbler placed over No. 3, is to have a fold or two of paper wrapped round it, so as to exclude the light, and then placed over No. 3. The result will be as follows:—No. 1, placed in *sunshine*, will soon have the inside of the top tumbler coated over with moisture, which will be in such quantities as to trickle down the sides. No. 2 will have a very little moisture upon one side—and No. 3 will have no water within. This little experiment proves that corn, potatoes, and roots, should be planted at such distances as freely to admit the sun's rays, and that the amount of corn is lessened by cutting the stalks, and that the plucking of the leaves of mangold-wurtzel and turnips, for green fodder, must be attended with loss to the bulbs.

Every body knows that plants suffer by being in the shade, if the ground is ever so richly manured; and this experiment tells the why. In some parts of Russia, wheat is fit to harvest in six weeks from the time it is sown: their days, contain 20 hours of broad sunlight, and that tells the wherefore.

But the leaves of plants have another important office to perform: they possess the power of absorbing the principal part of their carbon from the atmosphere in the form of carbonic acid, which is decomposed by the leaf, (with the aid of sunlight,) the oxygen is liberated, and the carbon retained, and forms about 44 per cent. of the solid or woody texture of plants. If the effect of the sun's rays upon growing plants were more generally understood, the plants in many of our gardens would not be left so thick. Many persons seem to go upon the principle that the more cucumber and melon vines there are in the hill, (and the hills 2 feet apart,) the more fruit they will obtain. I have frequently seen 12 or 15 plants left in the hill, and the owner would about as soon have had one of his teeth extracted, as one of the plants pulled up.

L. B.

Printers in high places.—The Mayors of the following cities are, or rather formerly were, printers:—London, Edinburgh, Perth, Glasgow, New-York and Washington. Statesmen and philosophers, jurists, scholars, poets and divines, (we do not recollect any military heroes,) have been graduates of the printing office.

A Tennessee editor pertinently remarks that a liberal use of the rod is the only way to make boys *smart*. A very good *bon mot*, and that is all. For, in spite of the old proverb, "Spare the rod and spoil the child," it is probable the injudicious use of the rod has spoiled more children than it ever improved.

Substitute for a Bell.—The first bell in Haverhill, says the Salem Gazette, was purchased in 1784: before that time there was a singular substitute, as appears by the following vote, passed in 1650: "That Abraham Tyler blow his horn half an hour before meeting, on the Lord's day, and on lecture days, and receive one pound of pork annually for his services, from each family."

A western paper, in announcing a steamboat explosion, very delicately observes—"Three persons were slightly killed."

The editors in Mobile are luxuriating on strawberries and green peas. The editors in this town are luxuriating on—on—last year's potatoes!—*Maine Far.*

DANA'S PRIZE ESSAY ON MANURES.

(Concluded.)

Manures Composed chiefly of Mould.

And now, reader, having been brought by this course of reasoning, to what the mould wants, [i. e. salts,] consider what tons and tons of useless mould you have in your swamp muck and peat bogs, your hassocks, and your turfy meadows. All these, foot upon foot in depth as they lie, are truly vegetable mould, in a greater or less degree of decay. If you dig this up, and expose it to the air, that itself sets it to work, decay is hastened, volatile matters escape, yea, ammonia, the master-spirit among manures, is secretly forming and at work, warming and sweetening the cold and sour muck. Without further preparation, practice confirms what theory teaches, that this process alone furnishes from these beds of vegetable mould, a very good manure. It is already highly charged with all the salts which a plant wants. But experience, doubtless led by the light of the good results of mixing mould with animal matter to preserve its strength, has also reversed the practice, and taught the utility of adding to vegetable mould quickening salts; that is, either the volatile alkali, by composting the mould with stable manure, or alkali in the shape of ashes, or potash, or soda-ash, or lime, or a mixture of these. In fact, whatever substance can by putrefaction give off volatile alkali, will, and must, and does, convert vegetable mould, of itself dead and inactive, into a quick and fertilizing manure.

If, then, reader, you pause here a moment upon this fact, and then cast your eye backward over the principles we have endeavored to impress on your memory, you will perceive that there is not, among all the classes and kinds of manure which we have shown you, one which may not be added, or as is the phrase, composted, with peat, meadow-mud, swamp-muck, pond-mud, or by whatever other name these great storehouses of vegetable matter are called. These are the true sources of abundant manure, to all whose stock of cattle, &c. is too small to give manure enough for the farmer's use.

It is the farmer's business to make a choice (if he has any but Hobson's,) of what substance or mixture of substances he will use. We have shown him how small a portion of animal matter, one to ten of pure mould, will impregnate that substance. Taking, then, a cord of this swamp muck, we shall find it contains in round numbers, about one thousand pounds of real dry vegetable mould. So that the carcass of an animal weighing one hundred pounds, evenly and well mixed up with a cord of fresh dug muck, will make a cord of manure, containing all the elements, and their amount too, of a cord of dung.

But it is not from the carcasses of animals that the farmer expects to derive the quickening salts for his muck. This can be the source of that power only to the butchers, (what fat lands they all have!) or to the dwellers near the sea, where fish is plenty. A barrel of alewives, it is said, fertilizes a wagon-load of loam. The carcass of a horse converts and fertilizes five or six cords of swamp muck. A cord of clear stable dung changes two cords of this same muck into a manure as rich and durable as stable manure itself. These are all the results, reader, of actual practice. The explanation of the principle has only come in since the practice, and showed the how and the why of this action.

But the merit of explaining this action, would be, is nothing, if it had not conducted one step further. The explanation of the principle of the action of animal matters, animal manures of all kinds, whether solid or liquid, on muck or peat, has led chemistry to propose, where these cheap and common forms of quickening power are not to be had, to mix ashes, or potash, or soda-ash with swamp muck. Now, reader, this is not an idle, visionary, book-farming scheme. It is perhaps one of the few successful, direct applications of chemistry to farming, which speaks out in defence of such book-farming, in tones and terms which bespeak your favorable consideration for the attempt which science is making to lend you, reader, a helping hand. This proposal, the offspring of science, has been carried out successfully by practical men in our own country, and has made its way abroad. Though this is not the place to give you the details of their results, you may rely upon the fact, that alkali and swamp muck do form a manure, cord for cord, in all soils, equal to stable dung.

Well now, after your patience in going over these pages, I hope you will find your reward in this statement. To be sure, it might have been said at once, and so have done with it; but I hoped, reader, and I am sure I have not been disappointed, that you liked to dive a little into the reason of things, and felt that you had farmed too long by the rule of thumb, to be satisfied that it was the road either to improvement or profit. And so among your first attempts at improving your worn-out lands, always supposing you have not a barn-cellar, hogs, and swamp-muck, so aptly called by one of your own self-made practical men, the "farmer's locomotive," I presume you may like to know the proportions in which you may mix swamp-muck and alkali. You can hardly go wrong here by using too much; the great danger is, you will use too little alkali. But calculating on the proportion of mould in fresh-dug swamp-muck, or peat, it may be stated as a rule, grounded on the quantity of quickening power in a cord of stable manure, that every cord of swamp muck requires eight bushels of common ashes, or thirty pounds of common potash, or twenty pounds of white or soda-ash, to convert it into manure equal, cord for cord, to that from your stable. Dig up your peat in the fall, let it lay over winter to fall to powder, calculate your quantity when fresh dug, and allow nothing for shrinking in the spring; when your alkali is to be well mixed in with the mould, and, after shoveling over for a few weeks, use it as you would stable manure.

These quantities of ashes and alkali are the lowest which may be advised. Three or four times this amount may be used with advantage, but both the quantity of alkali and the number of loads per acre, must and will be determined by each for himself. It is a question of ways and means, rather than of practice. But supposing the smallest quantity of ashes or of alkali to be used which we have advised, then at least five cords of the compost should be used per acre. This may be applied to any soil, light or heavy. But there is another form of this same swamp muck and alkali, which should be used only on light, loamy, sandy soils, to produce its greatest benefit, though even on heavy soils not very wet, it may be used with great advantage. This is a compost of one cord of spent ashes to three cords of swamp muck. This is decidedly the best mixture which has yet been tried. We have in this all that mixture of various salts and mould which plants want, and both by the action of the mould and by that of the air, the alkali of the spent ashes, which no leaching would extract, is soon let loose, and produces all the effects of so much clear potash or soda.

I have thus, reader, given you a few of the ways by which you may convert your peat-bogs and swamps into manure, when you have neither cattle nor hogs. I have not thought it worth while to go into this subject further, and give you directions for lime and salt, or other matters which might be used. I have given you the most common, and those well known and at hand. All you want, then, to apply these principles of forming composts, is to give them that little attention which will enable you to understand them. And the rest must be left to your practical common sense, without some share of which, farming, like everything else, would be vanity and vexation of spirit.

I would here, reader, take my leave of you, and in the hope that we may again meet to have another talk. There are a great many other points relating to manure, which can be understood only after we have made ourselves somewhat acquainted with the chemistry of soil. Then, having explained that, before the full action of manure can be understood, we must proceed a step further, and consider what changes take place in growing crops, and the effects of these growing crops upon soil and manure. The quantity and kind of salts they extract, and how soil is exhausted. This would lead to the consideration of the quantity and kind of manure to be applied to different soils, and the value of different manures. But there is one other very important thing belonging to our subject. Crops exhaust land, but fatten animals. Now this last properly belongs to that part of our subject relating to the changes occurring in vegetables, and their power of exhausting the soil. It will be seen, therefore, that the whole covers the ground called Agricultural Chemistry.

This Essay is only its first part. If it meets your acceptance, I trust it may encourage its author to draw up its second part on soils, and its third part on the effect of crops on soil, and their value as food for animals.

THE CURCULIO.

Mr J. A. Kenrick, of Newton, in the Magazine of Horticulture, says:—"Having heard salt recommended, [as a protection against the curculio,] I concluded to make a trial of salt lye, having a quantity at command. The yard contains about one-eighth of an acre, in which I have about a hundred trees. In the spring, I had about two cords of meadow mud, well saturated with lye, evenly spread and spaded in. (The year previous about the same quantity of dock mud was applied in the same way.) About the first of June, I put on a load of about five hogsheads (salt lye) in addition, pouring it from a large watering pot, about two common sized pailsfull to each tree, saturating the whole ground in the yard; and so powerful was the application that there was not a weed to be found the height of two inches during the season: every tree bore well, and many of them were so completely loaded with fruit, that I was obliged

to stake them to prevent their breaking down. There were a very few curculios which found their way up the trees, but not a *twentieth* part enough to thin the fruit as they ought to have been, which prevented their attaining the size they otherwise would have done."

PLYMOUTH AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Report of the Supervisor for 1843.

We commence below the publication of the first annual report of the Supervisor of the Plymouth Agricultural Society, Hon. Morrill Allen. It abounds with practical instruction and judicious counsel, and we wish our limits and other circumstances, permitted its insertion entire in one paper. However, all will read it who are acquainted with its author by reputation or otherwise—and there are but few of our readers, we presume, who may not be embraced in the number of such.—Ed.

Report.

The Trustees were pleased to introduce into the list of premiums for the present year, several important alterations in relation to Produce and Improvements.

In making this first report under a change, it seems proper to enter into some review of the doings in past years, that the Society and the public may possess the means of correct judgment whether or not the change is improvement of importance enough to justify the expense attending it, and the direction of the attention and labors of competitors into new channels.

When the operations of the Society commenced, agriculture in all its branches was in a state of great depression in the county. Comparatively few towns produced a supply for its inhabitants, of any of the grains, or even of hay. The grain was chiefly raised on the old system of alternating crops of Indian corn and winter rye. Occasional crops of oats, barley and wheat followed Indian corn or potatoes; with those grains grass seed was sown, but two crops of grain with one light dressing with manure, (or, as often happened, none,) must be miserable preparation for a crop of grain. No wonder that under such management, both hay and grain were scarce. The first board of trustees correctly supposed the most proper means to be employed in leading farmers to the knowledge of the real source of the evil which was spreading so blighting prospects over all their interests, would be to hold out effectual encouragements to the greatest products on single acres. Accordingly, liberal premiums were offered for hay, grain and roots. For grain and roots, offers have been continued, with some variations, to the present time. For the greatest crops of hay, premiums were discontinued several years ago, probably because the culture of grasses commanded more attention, and was more successfully practiced than any other branch of husbandry. The renovation of low land, which the Society early and liberally encouraged, and its conversion into English meadow, has had the effect of almost doubling the quantity of English hay, and nothing more may be necessary now, than a judicious continuance of similar encouragements.

If we can persuade farmers to acquire the knowledge necessary to the proper management of low lands, and the successful cultivation of the best grasses there, little danger will exist of the warmer soils being abandoned to the course of nature. The draining of swamps furnishes abundant materials which every considerate man will mix with warmer soils and greatly enrich them.

The premiums on grain and root crops have been followed with numerous and beneficial results. There can exist no reasonable doubt that one effect has been followed with numerous beneficial results. There can exist no reasonable doubt that one effect has been great general improvement in field culture. But we have never succeeded in obtaining, though various means have been resorted to for the purpose, so particular statemants of the nature and condition of the soils, or so minute descriptions of the cultivation as it was supposed would be most useful, and which it was the bounden duty of successive competitors to give. A new and somewhat expensive expedient is now adopted for the purposes of obtaining and diffusing the desired information, in the appointment of a person to view the fields on which experiments are proposed, and acquaint himself with the particular cultivation. If such service be faithfully performed, the information on some points must be more satisfactory, still much will continue to depend on the care and accuracy of applicants in detailing their operations.

The premiums this year, (as seemed proper under a change,) are for experiments simple in character, and easily carried to completion. The results, it may be fairly presumed, will impart no new views to many experimental farmers, but may tend to convince those who have long been in bondage to established usages, of some truths which they have perseveringly refused to receive on any authority that could with the shadow of reason be questioned,—truths which may give a new direction to their labors, and essentially conduce to their interest.

In the department under the charge of the Committee on Improvements, several entries have been made for reclaiming swamps: by the advice of the Chairman of the committee, the lands have been viewed. The Trustees will determine whether or not, premiums shall be awarded to the meritorious operators next year. A claim has been entered to the premiums offered for experiments with lime and salt. The final result should not now be anticipated by any remarks on the indications which the progress already made may seem to give. A general caution, however, may properly be given against attaching too great importance to the results of single experiments with any of the salts, whether those results be favorable or unfavorable. Some writers tell us the salts are condiments of plants; the constitutions of soils vary as do those of men; in some cases condiments may be highly conducive to health and vigor, and in others absolutely injurious. This is obviously true with respect to common salt; we have applied it without any visible effect: sometimes to the destruction of plants, and at other times with manifest beneficial influences. We have been informed by one gentleman in the county, of great and enduring effects from salt, applied at the rate of six bushels to the acre. It is an article which should not be sweepingly denounced, nor should it be sown on fields generally, without previous trials on a small scale. No general rules, we think, can properly be given for the application of salt, lime, gypsum, and some other kindred substances. Every farmer must qualify himself, in repeated experiments, to judge whether he can usefully apply such substances to his land. It may be wise in the Society to encourage experiments in offers of reward, but certainly not as means of establishing rules of general application. We properly keep before the people and solicit attention to every substance, which, in any soil and under any circumstances, may conduce to the increase of vegetation.

(To be continued.)

QUALITIES OF PLANTS.

Will plants imbibe any thing prejudicial or otherwise, if the matter contained in the soil exists in a superabundant quantity in lieu of their proper aliment—or are they sometimes driven, like animals, from necessity, to make use of unwholesome food, which alters the constituents of their bodies? All roots, fruits, &c., have their own peculiar uniform taste; but they differ occasionally in a remarkable degree. Grapes (of Tokay) on slate, had a peculiar delicious rich flavor. Parsnips (Berlin) on sandy soil, were very sweet flavored and highly esteemed. Potatoes (Irish) grown on a gravelly soil, and manured with sea-weed, were excellent, and tasted like new flour. Celery (Sandwich) produced in deep sand impregnated with salt, was very different from that grown elsewhere. Carrots on deep warm sand, with chalk bottom, were very sugary. Strawberries (Huntingdon) raised in rich moist loam, had a most nauseous flavor; and Jerusalem artichokes on the same kind of soil, had a watery, earthy taste. These have been brought prominently under my notice, but other plants, trees, &c., are likewise affected by the soil in which they grow. Firs, &c. grown on wet land are valueless for timber, in being deficient of some particular substance, and having too much of something injurious to them. Nemo.

[Plants are unable to reject the fluid matters that are presented to their roots, and consequently, where such matters unsuitable to them exist in land, they and their products are necessarily affected.—*Ed. Chron.*]

PRUNING.

"Does the lopping off of a branch increase or retard the general growth of a tree?" The principles of vegetable physiology that relate to the growth of trees, are as follows:—The sap is absorbed by the roots, ascends the stem, traverses the branches, is elaborated in the leaves, and descends again towards the root, depositing a new layer of wood, and also the peculiar secretions of the species. If, then, we deprive a tree of one of its boughs, do we not take from it a number of its digestive organs—its leaves? and do we not thereby impair its growth, at least its increase in thickness? A branch, inasmuch as it bears leaves, is a means of productiveness, and not of waste, to a tree; I should, therefore, be inclined to answer in the affirmative, and say that pruning, to any extent at a time, must be injurious, at least as far as regards increase in diameter. There is one point connected with pruning which I do not think has yet been satisfactorily determined. It is this: Does a tree absorb the the same quantity of sap from the ground when deprived of several of its branches, as it did while they formed integral parts of it? The elucidation of this question would throw some light on the effects of the operation of pruning.—*Correspondent of Gardeners' Chron.*

In farming, if you would outdo your neighbor, use two shovels-full of manure where he uses but one.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, May 1, 1844.

SAUSSURE'S PROOFS OF ASSIMILATION OF ABSORBED HUMUS, AND REMARKS ON LIEBIG'S THEORY.

Saussure adduces in proof of assimilation of humus, the fact that the starch of wheat flows into the growing plant to nourish it. The starch in the "*endospermium*" may be detected by iodine, so long as it is unexhausted, but when it has passed into the plant, iodine detects no starch in the sap. The young plant owes not its first developement, in any considerable degree, to carbonic acid and water, "for its weight has not been increased by them, even admitting into the calculation that carbon which it lost during this process of growing." This starch has not been absorbed by *roots*. Here is then a distinction. On the other hand, this starch is not essentially requisite for the growth of wheat, for, "if the greater part of the endospermium be removed from the germinating wheat, and the roots of the germinating seed be put into mould, they will at the commencement make slower progress than the perfect grain, but such progress will afterwards be sufficiently visible to prove a similar development, and that the extractive introduced by the roots, has replaced the starchy fluid." Saussure fortifies this by the observation, that in fields where the albumen of seed is destroyed, either by insects or by putrefaction, the young shoots absorb organic matter from the soil. "Since, then, the assimilation of the elements of the endospermium has been proved, that of the extractive of mould, which is introduced by the roots into a plant, is equally proved."

Saussure, in farther proof, adds, that the colorless transpiration of his plants showed a slow deposition of traces of organic matter, not amounting to a twentieth part of that absorbed by the plant. Salts of ammonia and lime were also found in the transpired fluid, in proportion of .0462 grs. to 926.04 of fluid. The plants absorbed no azote from the air, and Saussure points out some sources of error in Baussingault's experiments on this subject. He then goes into an examination of Liebig's views, that carbonic acid, water, and salts are the sources, the only sources of the nutrition of plants. Saussure admits that plants can increase their organic substance by water and air only, but adds, that such plants are of no agricultural value. He objects to experiments adduced in proof of Liebig's view, because they were made on *young plants*. "By employing such young plants, their nutrition is for the most part—independent of the impurity of spring water—attributable to the transference of the organic matters of these small plants into all those parts which are in course of development." The results are different if the experiment is made with *seeds*, nourished by distilled water and atmospheric air. Saussure thus found, in glass vessels filled with pure sand, beans grew and increased their dry vegetable matter in proportion of twice their weight, while peas cultivated in this manner, gave plants whose dry vegetable matter was 3 1-4 times the weight of the seed; while, in vegetable earth, the increase was in proportion of from 1 to 60. Whether fructification has taken place or not, the *smallness* of plants, obtained by distilled water and air, is a result which cannot be denied. Liebig founds an objection to Saussure's view, upon the insolubility of humus in water. In answering this, Saussure also opposes Liebig's view of the source of azote. S. observes: "*Mould* nearly infertile, exhausted by the filtration of rain-water, cannot furnish any considerable quantity of extractive matter. It always, however, contains a small quantity, which may be discerned by its yellow color, and taste, after the water in which it has been soaked is evaporated." This matter contains azote, which it furnishes to plants. It contains, also, phosphate of lime and other salts, and, being soluble in water, "has a powerful action on the nutrition of plants." "This nourishing property must not, however, be ascribed in preference to the soluble extract which can be drawn immediately from a *similar earth*: it contains a much larger quantity of organic matter, which at first is insoluble in water, and which is imperceptible to the eye, but which, however, by its solubility in carbonate of potash, or by combustion, can be detected. When moistened, this substance is continually in a state of slow fermentation—forming an extractive matter easily soluble in water, and furnishing the plant with a continual source of nourishment." Saussure continues, that if this process takes place, without free access of air, the quantity of soluble nutriment thus prepared, is much more limited. "Another disadvantage of imperfect contact is, that it prevents the escape of acetic acid, which is prejudicial to the growth," finding no base with which to combine. Saussure attributes the efficiency of irrigation with "muck water" to its property of inducing that fermentation which produces from the insoluble, a soluble organic matter. He finds this extractive soluble matter in charcoal, which he found better than sand in forwarding plants, though he allows that its power of condensing ammonia and carbonic acid, here play the greatest part. Let us see however, the use he assigns to ammonia. "We do not deny, in other respects, the beneficial influence of ammonia as a component part of dung, marl, burnt clay, &c.; we have only to say, that its chief use is, not to be totally absorbed, but as a means of dissolving humus and those insoluble organic matters contained in the soil and atmosphere": "the bodies floating in the air perform a part in the vegetable kingdom." This atmospheric matter furnishes earths, salts, carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, *azote*.

"The azote of extractive matter, so necessary for the growth of plants, escapes sometimes during their growth, as gas, or by the rapid fermentation produced by porous bodies in an atmosphere of carbonic acid and azote." This loss is replaced in the succeeding vegetation, by the condensation of atmospheric azote, either "1st, by the porous organic substance; 2d, by oxides of iron and manganese in vegetable earths; or, 3d, by the electricity of thunder storms, which produces sulphuric acid and ammonia." If these all co-operate in vegetation, then, since we have no proof, as yet, of the direct assimilation of ammonia, nor of sulphuric acid, it must, says Saussure, "be inferred that plants appropriate to themselves the dead matter of plants in order to produce combinations, which are very similar to those which they receive for their nutrition from mould." Saussure then adds, in conclusion to his observations—"1st. That fertile soil contains a mixture of soluble and insoluble organic matter; and that the introduction of the former by the roots into a plant, is a powerful aid to that nutrition which is afforded by the atmosphere and water. 2d. That the insoluble organic matter of soil, always being in greater quantity than the soluble, undergoes by means of water, slow fermentation, which then furnishes nourishing soluble matter, which partially and gradually replaces the insoluble. 3d. That plants receive their azote almost entirely by absorption of soluble organic matter, direct experiments proving that they do not assimilate it in form of gas, in any considerable quantity, and that it is not contained as ammonia in the distilled water, which they are allowed to dissolve. 4th. That there is a difference between those colored substances serviceable for the nourishment of plants, and those which have not this property. The former are changed in color, mix with the plant; the latter enter the plant, but undergo no decomposition. As it has been proved, that those colored extractive matters, serviceable for the nutrition of plants, are absorbed by plants, and that neither in that which remains after absorption, nor in the transpiration from the plant, nor in the surrounding air, nor in the plant itself, are they found in their previous unchanged state; so we must presume that they have disappeared in consequence of the plant assimilating part of their elements."

I have thus, Mr Editor, laid before you the experiments of Saussure, and Liebig's summary of his remarks, in their own language. I have condensed all their other remarks, and the whole is now before your readers. Perhaps I ought not to have added, in your last paper, any observations of my own, but the occasion seemed fit, and I shall defer any further remarks until a future day—merely adverting now to the coincidence between the views of Saussure and those generally prevalent in this country. S. L. D.

Lowell, April 25, 1844.

Erratum.—In the second paragraph of 1st column on page 339 of our last paper, "carbon or carbonic acid," should have read—carbon *of* carbonic acid.

DANA'S ESSAY ON MANURES.

We conclude the publication of this valuable treatise in this paper. Few who have read it, we think, can have failed to derive instruction from it—and many, we trust, have been *profitably* instructed by its teachings. It abounds with principles and suggestions of the utmost practical importance to all who earn their bread by the culture of the earth, and whose prosperity depends upon keeping up its fertility. If the general and leading theory of the Essay, so clearly elucidated by the author, shall be proved by trial to be correct, he will deserve to be ranked with the most distinguished benefactors of the farming interest. The great point of the Essay is to show the farmer the value of muck—or rather the mould of muck—and how it may be made as valuable for manure as stable dung—and this matter is the subject of the concluding portion of the Essay, given on another page.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

Saturday, April 27, 1844.

Mr Wm Meller exhibited numerous varieties of superb Geraniums—among which were the following, viz: Oliver Twist, Life-guardsman, Decorium, Gaines' King, Erectum, King John, and Jewess. Seedlings of Mr Meller's, as follows: Henry Clay, Beauty of Roxbury, Franklin, George Washington, Martha Washington, Alicia, British Queen, Prince Albert, &c. Also, three fine Bouquets, Violas, and other flowers.

This is the first display of the season, and we very much regret there were not other exhibitors and competitors for the best Geraniums.

The committee award to Mr Meller the premium of $3, for the best 10 named varieties.

For the Committee, J. BRECK, *Chm'n.*

☞Notice.—Growers of the Hyacinth are hereby notified that the premiums for the best 12 named Hyacinths, and the 12 second best do., will be awarded on Saturday, May 4th.

For the Committee, J. BRECK, *Chm'n.*

☞The communication of "Economy" is unavoidably deferred until our next.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Gardens of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending April 28.

April, 1844.		7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	22	48	61	43	E.
Tuesday,	23	50	60	50	E.
Wednesday,	24	50	70	58	S.
Thursday,	25	57	61	64	N. E.
Friday,	26	57	58	48	S. E.
Saturday,	27	39	46	41	N. E.
Sunday,	28	43	62	60	N.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, April 29, 1844.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At Market 400 Beef Cattle, 18 pairs Working Oxen, 600 Sheep, and 1140 Swine. 25 Beef cattle unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—Extra $5,50 a 5,75. First quality $5,25 a 5,50; second quality $5 a 5,25; third quality $4 a 4,75.

Working Oxen.—58, 65, 70, and $80.

Sheep.—Tabs from $2,50 to $3,75. Weathers from 3,00 to $4,25.

Swine.—Lots to peddle 5 a 5-8 for sows, and 6 a 6 5-8 for barrows. Large barrows from 5 to 5 1-2. At retail from 5 to 7 1-2.

An error occurred in our report last week. The price of Beef Cattle should have been higher.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $2 00 to 2 12 per bushel. Red Top 55 to 60 cents. Clover—Northern, 9 to 10c.—Southern, 8 a 9 c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $2 62 per bushel.

GRAIN. The market closes extremely heavy, with several cargoes afloat unsold.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 00 to 00—Southern, round yellow, old, 00 a 00—Southern flat yellow, new, 51 a 53—do. do. white 48 a 50—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 00 a 00—do. Southern, 70 a 71 — Oats, Southern, 30 a 32—Northern do. 35 to 36—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 00 a 00—Bran, 00 a 00.

FLOUR. The market at the close was more depressed for all descriptions, and but few buyers of Genesee at 55 1-8 could be found.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $0 00 a 5 00—do. wharf, $0 00 a 4 87—do. free of garlic, $4 87 a 5 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $0 00 a 4 87 —Fredericksburg, low l'd 4 mos. $4 87 a 4 94—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 0 00 a 0 00. —Georgetown, $4 87 a 5 50—Richmond Canal, $4 87 a 5 00 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $0 00 a 5 25 —do. Country $4 87 a 5 00—Genesee, common, cash, $0 00 a 5 12— do fancy brands $5 18 a 5 37 — Ohio, via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $4 87 a 5 12. Rye, $3 50 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 87 a 3 00.

PROVISIONS. The market has been languid for all kinds of provisions this week. Beef and Pork have gone off in small lots at prices corresponding to the quotations.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $6 75 a 7 00—Navy—$6 00 a 6 25.—No. 1, $5 87 a 6 00—do Prime $5 00 a 5 25—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $12 50 a 00 00—do Clear $11 00 a 12 00 do. Mess, 9 00 a 10 00—do Prime $7 50 a 8 00—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 15 a 18—do store, uninspected, 10 a 12—do dairy, 18 cts. a 20—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 00 a 0 —do South and Western, 5¾ a 6¼ — Hams, Boston, 7 a 7½ — Southern and Western, 6 a 6½—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 4½ —do new milk, 4½ a 5½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

There continues to be a good demand for both fleece and pulled Wool, and sales have been made at our quotations. The stock in market is not large, and is daily diminishing.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 45 a 50 c.—American full blood, do 43 a 45—Do. 3-4 do 37 a 40—Do. 1-2 do 33 a 35 -1-4 and common do 28 a 32 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 25— Do. unwashed, 10 a 15 — Bengasi do 6 a 13—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 15—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 37 a 40—No. 1 do. do. do. 32 a 35—No. 2 do do do 25 a 30—No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

A sale of 50 bales first sort was made for foreign shipment, at 6 1-2c per lb. cash.

1st sort Mass 1843, lb. 6½ a 6¾ ; 2d do 4½ a 5.

HAY, 14 to 16 per ton—Eastern Screwed $10 to 12.

EGGS, 12 a 14.

FARM FOR SALE

One of the most pleasant situations in the middle of the town of Pepperell—the farm of the late Rev. James Howe, containing 44 acres of first rate land, well divided into mowing, tillage, pasturing and wood land, well watered and fenced, with a two story house and two barns, one 36 by 40 feet, with a cellar under the same, and all other convenient out buildings. There are a variety of fruit trees on the farm. *Terms easy.* For further particulars inquire of SETH NASON, on the premises, or to JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston. April 20.

POTTAWATTAMIE BEAN.

The subscribers are happy to inform their customers and friends that they have received a new and superb variety of early BUSH BEAN, of excellent flavor, and very prolific. It surpasses in beauty any variety now cultivated among us. The name of "Pottawattamie" has been given to it on account of its having been received from that tribe of Indians in Iowa, by whom it is cultivated. Price 37½ cents per quart. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, April 17, 1844.

SPLENDID FLOWER SEEDS.

The subscribers have received the following choice Flower Seeds which they offer at 6 1-4 cents per package, except those marked otherwise.

Extra fine German Asters, 8 varieties.
Fine double Balsams (sorts.)
Extra fine do 12½ cents.
Cosmos bipinnatus 12 "
Campanula pulcherrima 12½ cents.
——— pyramidalis alba 12½ cents.
——— do azurea 12½ cents.
Chinese Primrose 12½ cents.
Cleome Grandiflora 12½ cents.
Didiscus cerulea 12½ cents.
Erysimum Peroffskiana.
Geraniums, from superb flowers 33⅓ cents.
Lupinus pollyphyllus 12½ cents.
——— var alba 12½ cents
——— rivularis 12½ cents.
——— Crookshankii 12½ cents.
——— splendens 12½ cents.
——— odoratus 12½ cents.
Lophospermum Siandem 12½ cents.
Mimulus Hudsonia 12½ cents.
——— cardinalis splendens 12½ cents.
Madagascar periwinkle 12½ cents.
Pentstemon Millerii 12½ cents.
——— hybridus 12½ "
——— gentianoides 12½ cents.
——— splendens 12½ "
Salpiglossis, fine sorts 12½ "
Schizanthus Hookerii 12½ "
——— obtusifolia.
——— new white.
——— humilus.
——— pinnata.
Portulacci Gilesii, 25 cents.
Phlox Drummondi 12½ "
Verbena, fine scarlet, and from other choice sorts 12½ cts.
——— aubletia.
——— urticifolia—With many other rare sorts.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, April 19, 1844.

FINE BONE MANURE.

The subscribers have on hand, Fifty Barrels of fine pulverised Bone Manure, mixed with the marrow of the bone. It was produced from a manufactory when the bone was sawed in a wet state. It must be a very valuable article.

Also, Fifty Barrels fine Bone Dust, in a dry state, principally saw dust, and the refuse of a manufactory.

March 20, 1844. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

FINE PICOTEE PINK SEED.

The subscribers have for sale a few packages of Pink Seed, saved from the varieties of double Pinks which were exhibited by them at the Horticultural Rooms, and for which they obtained premiums the last season. This is probably the finest seed of American growth ever offered for sale. Price 25 cents per package. Also extra fine English Picotee and Carnation seed at 12½ cents per package.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, March 6, 1844.

MUCK MANUAL.

The Farmer's Muck Manual, by Dr. S. L. Dana—price 62 1-2 cents, for sale by JOS. BRECK & CO.

ec. 11.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

NEW ENGLAND

Agricultural Warehouse

AND

SEED STORE.

51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. having received a full and general assortment of FIELD, GRASS, GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS, worthy of cultivation, confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities, unmixed with other varieties; they have no hesitation in saying that their collection of Seeds is the best, and of the greatest variety ever offered for sale at any establishment in the U. States, and would invite all to send in their orders as soon as possible, that they may supply themselves with the choicest varieties in good season for the Spring planting.

The following are a few of the most important kinds which they offer wholesale and retail, viz:

PEAS.

Cedo Nulli, Hills' Early, Early Dwarf, do. Charlton, do. Frame, do. Warwick, Improved Blue Imperial, Woodford's Dwarf Marrow, Bishop's Dwarf, for borders, Knights' Dwarf, Dwarf Marrowfats, Tall do.

BEANS.

Lima, Saba, Horticultural Pole, Dwarf China, do. Mohawk, do. Marrow, Red Cranberry Pole, White do. do. Kidney Pole, Dwarf Kidney, do. Case knife, do. Six Weeks, &c.

CABBAGES.

Large Late Drumhead, Late Sugar loaf, Green Globe Savoy, Red Dutch, Low Dutch, Early York, Battersea, Vanack, Hope, Early Sugar-loaf, with a complete variety of other kinds.

Long Blood and Turnip Beets, French Sugar Beets, Mangel Wurtzel, Ruta Baga, Long Orange, Early Horn and White Field Carrots, Early and Late Cauliflowers, Broccolis of all sorts, Cucumbers, Melons, Squashes, sweet Marjorum, Sage, Summer Savory, Thyme, and Turnips, more than twenty fine varieties.

They have just received per Ship Minerva, a fine and choice lot of new Flower Seeds, which together with an assortment of over four hundred kinds, comprise the most complete collection ever offered for sale.

FRUIT AND ORNAMENTAL TREES,

Shrubs, Grape Vines, Roses, Dahlias, Green-house Plants, Rhubarb and Asparagus Roots, and all Nursery productions furnished at one day's notice, and when requested, can be packed in mats and boxes, so as to be sent to Europe or any part of America.

Dealers supplied on the most liberal terms with Seeds of various sizes, containing a complete assortment, neatly put up in papers, labelled and sealed ready for retail, with printed directions on each package for its management and cultivation.

GRASS SEEDS,

At wholesale and retail, at the lowest market prices. Also, Kentucky Blue Grass, a first rate article for Lawns. Clover Seed, Red and White, Orchard Grass, Oat Grass, Fowl Meadow, Northern and Southern Red Top, Barley, Oats, Millet, Rhode Island Grass, Buckwheat, &c., &c., of the best quality and for sale low.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS of all kinds, constantly on hand.

AGRICULTURAL AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS of all kinds, among which are the following, viz:—1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs, 200 Common do. do, 200 Cultivators, 100 Greene's Straw Cutters, 50 Willis' do. do. 100 Common do. do, 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers, 50 Common do. do, 200 Willis' Seed Sowers, 50 do. Vegetable Cutters, 50 Common do. do., 200 Hand Corn Mills, 200 Grain Cradles, 100 Ox Yokes, 1500 Doz. Scythe Stones, 3000 do. Austin's Rifles, 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels, 150 do. Common do. 100 do. Spades, 500 do. Grass Scythes, 300 do. Patent Snaiths, 200 do. Common do., 500 do. Hay Rakes, 200 do. Garden do., 200 do. Manure Forks, 300 do. Hay do. 500 Pair Trace Chains, 100 do, Truck do. 100 do. Draft do, 500 do. Tie up do, 50 doz. Halter do, 1000 yards Fence do, 25 Grind Stones on Rollers.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

FRUIT TREES.

The subscribers are prepared to furnish every description of Fruit Trees, and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs and Plants. The autumn is a suitable time to transplant many Trees and Plants, and often times more convenient than in spring. We have as great a variety of Apples, Pears, Cherries, Plums, Peaches, Quinces, Currants, Gooseberries, &c. as can be found in the country, and offer them at the lowest prices. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, Oct. 11, 1843

NITRATE OF SODA FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

BENJAMIN BANGS, No. 39 & 40, Lewis' Wharf, has for sale, a quantity of the above named article, which has been much approved of in England, and as far as used in this country has been found highly beneficial on grass land, trees and plants generally.

Boston, March 20, 1844. 3m

MISCELLANEOUS.

"I wish you had been Eve," said an urchin to an old maid who was proverbial for her meanness.

"Why so?" she asked.

"Because," said he, "you would have eaten all the apple, instead of dividing it with Adam."

Dow, Jr., the writer of the "short patent sermons" of the N. Y. Mercury, recommends every man to know himself—if not, he should inquire of some one who *does* know him, and then act accordingly. Good advice this.

The Americans are followers of the English in every thing.—*London Age.*

We must confess, Mr Age, that our soldiers followed you in the last war.—*Louisville Jour.*

"What were the dark ages?" inquired the schoolmaster. "I guess they were the ages before spectacles were invented," replied the precocious pupil.

WARREN'S GARDEN AND NURSERY,

NONANTUM VALE, BRIGHTON,

FLORAL SALOON AND SEED STORE,

No. 1 *TREMONT TEMPLE,* (*late Tremont Theatre*) BOSTON.

The proprietor of this establishment is now ready to receive and execute orders for Fruit; Ornamental Trees; Grape Vines; Shrubbery; Roses; Strawberry Plants, &c. in any quantity and of the most valuable kinds at short notice, properly packed and secured for transportation to any part of the United States or Provinces.

The catalogue for 1844 which has been prepared with scrupulous care, contain a list of the choicest sorts of Pears; Apples; Plums; Cherries; Peaches; Apricots and Nectarines; Grape Vines; Raspberries; Gooseberries; Strawberries; Currants; Evergreen Trees and Shrubs; Ornamental Trees; Herbaceous Plants; Roses; Green House Plants; Dahlias, &c.

A new feature has been added in the catalogue which renders it particular valuable for purchasers who are desirous of improving their orchards and grounds by planting only the most approved, superior and productive varieties. It is by columns and abbreviations, the meaning of which is explained under every different kind of fruit, so that a large number of the most important characters by which the different varieties are distinguished may be seen at a glance.

While the list of fruits may not be found so extensive as in some other catalogues, it contains every kind of value, and all new and improved varieties are added as soon as their qualities are tested. Nevertheless any variety that may be ordered can always be supplied, on as reasonable terms as are afforded any other nurseries.

The list of *DAHLIAS* comprises upwards of 300 of the choicest varieties of this gorgeous and splendid flower, most of them prize varieties. Dry roots ready for delivery early in the spring, and in pots from the middle of April to the 1st June.

STRAWBERRIES of the most productive and best varieties, for sale in any quantity. None but healthy and strong plants will be suffered to leave the nursery.

GRAFTS and *SCIONS* of most of the kinds named in the Catalogue can be obtained in their season.

GREEN HOUSE PLANTS, of all the rare and splendid kinds, always on hand at the Saloon, where visitors are respectfully invited to call.

GRAPE VINES; ASPARAGUS, and other roots constantly for sale.

Also, a great variety of choice *GARDEN* and *FLOWER SEEDS,* all of this year's growth, and warranted fresh, genuine and true to their names.

Agricultural, Horticultural and Botanical Books.

Gardening Implements; Flower Vases, &c. &c. The whole enumerated in a new descriptive Catalogue, which will be given *gratis* on application. All orders for trees will be delivered at one day's notice. Every tree and plant will be warranted by the subscriber, as to its distinctive character and goodness.

Boquets and cut flowers, can be obtained any day in the week at the saloon. Flowers furnished for decorations, at short notice. JAMES L. L. F. WARREN.

April 3.

WINSHIP'S NURSERY.

BRIGHTON NEAR BOSTON,

Situated on the line of the Boston and Worcester Rail Road, 5 miles from the city.

The season for transplanting is at hand, and all those who wish to supply themselves with choice Fruit and ornamental Trees, can be furnished at short notice with the finest varieties by the proprietors of this celebrated nursery.

Fruit Trees, including all the varieties of Pears, Peaches, Plums, Nectarines, Cherries, &c &c.

Cotalogues may be obtained by applying at the Nursery.

Trees carefully packed to insure safety in long voyages.

Orders lsft at the New England Seed Store of J. Breck & Co. Nos. 51 & 52 North Market street, will be delivered the day following.

Letters containing orders, addressed to the subscribers, J. & F. WINSHIP.

March 27, 1844.

CAMBRIDGEPORT NURSERY.

Columbia Street.

SAMUEL POND, NURSERYMAN,

CAMBRIDGEPORT, MASS.

Has for sale a choice assortment of FRUIT TREES, SHRUBS, ROOTS AND VINES.—Among them are the best varieties of Apple, Pear, Plum, Cherry, Peach, Apricot, Grape Vines, Asparagus, Rhubarb, Currants, Gooseberries, Raspberries, Pear Stocks, Apple Stocks, &c. &c. &c.

TREES of an extra size always on hand, and will be delivered to any part of the city, free of expense.

Also scions of Pears, Plums and Cherries.

FRUIT AND ORNMENTAL TREES, &C.

S. & G. HYDE'S NURSERY, NEWTON.

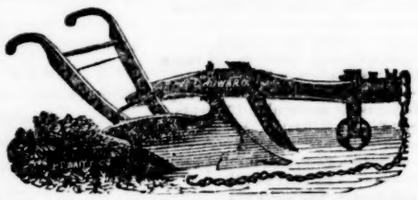
The subscribers have for sale a choice collection of Fruit Trees, comprising the best varieties of Apples, Cherries, Peaches, Pears, Plums, &c.

Gooseberries, Currants, Raspberries, Grape Vines, and Quinces.

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, Honeysuckles, Altheas, Pœonies, Buckthorn, &c.

All orders addressed to the subscribers will receive prompt attention. Trees packed to insure safety to distant places. S. & G. HYDE.

Newton, April 3, 1844.



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has be n very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

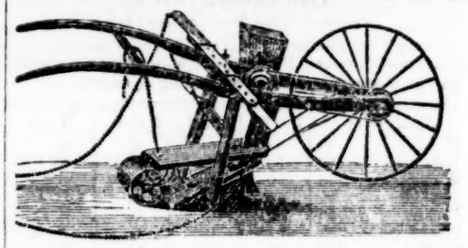
"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside: this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.



WILLIS' LATEST IMPROVED SEED SOWER.

In using this machine, the farmer may be certain that his seed is put into the ground, and at the same time in the best possible manner. There has been a great difficulty in machines for sowing garden seeds; they are very apt to clog up, and the farmer might go over an acre of land and not sow a single seed; but not so with this; it is so constructed that it cannot possibly clog. In using this sower, the farmer can save one half of his seed, and do the work at less than one quarter the expense of the common way of sowing, and have it done in a much better manner; it opens the furrow, drops the seed covers it over and rolls them down. It will sow any kind of Garden Seeds; say Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, Turnips, Carrots, Beets, Parsnips, Onions, &c. For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 and 52 North Market street, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

NONANTUM HILL.

NURSERY OF WILLIAM KENRICK.

Baldwin and other Apple Trees of fine sizes, 10,000 Peach Trees, also of kinds superior and of sizes fine; Pear, Plum, Cherry, Apricot, Nectarine Trees of kinds new or most highly esteemed.

This nursery, by late extensions, now covers 30 acres of ground. A large green house is now being added.

Franconia Raspberries, Grape Vines, Currants Gooseberries, Strawberries—of kinds most approved. The descriptive Catalogue for 1843 will be sent to all who apply.

Ornamental Trees and Shrubs, and Honeysuckles; yellow Harrison and other Roses; Tree and other splended Pœonies of different colors. Also, Myatt's Victoria and other new kinds of Rhubarb, double Dahlias, &c. &c.

All orders addressed to the subscriber will be promptly attended to, and Trees when so ordered will be securely packed in mats and moss for safe transport to all distant places, and delivered in the city by the wagon which goes hither daily, or shipped to order, or per railroad. Orders may be left with Joseph Breck & Co. 51 & 52 North Market street, John G. Locke, Esq., or Eliphalet Wheeler, Esq., Framingham. WILLIAM KENRICK.

March 6. eptM15 Nonantum Hill, Newton.

SCIONS FOR GRAFTING.

Those who wish to obtain Scions for grafting, are reminded that this month is the time to cut grafts. It is important that orders should be sent during the month to ensure execution, as it is impossible to keep a full assortment on hand. We have a supply of the following, cut from bearing trees, viz: *Apples*—Baldwin, Greening, Roxbury Russet, Porter, Hubbardston, Nonsuch, and other varieties.

Pears.—Bartlett, Seckle, Jargonelle, and other varieties can be cut if ordered.

Also, Plum and Cherry Scions.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, March 20, 1844.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance,* or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

N. B.—Postmasters are permitted by law to frank all subscriptions and remittances for newspapers, without expense to subscribers.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,

21 School Sttree.